

**From:** Peter Snyder  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/9/01 4:23pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear DOJ,

I am writting this to express my hope that you will not agree to the currently proposed settlement with Microsoft. In my oppinion, there are multiple problems with this outcome. For one, it only allows Microsoft to extend its monopoly into schools. As most any IT professional will tell you, it is very difficult to retrain/teach someone to use a different operating system, and allowing Microsoft to get its products into schools only locks students into their products. Furthermore, there is very little language in the settlement that protects open source/free projects such as Apache, Sendmail, SAMBA, and so on. These projects are what have allowed the internet to be the open-to-all entitiy that it currently is. If these projects were to be replaced by propritary software, and even more so if the propritary software was owned by one single company, there would most likly be high enough barriers to entry to the internet to prevent worse-off people from taking advantage of something that is now such an integral part of everyones lives.

I hope you will reconsider the settlement.

Pete Snyder